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### Environmental Trade Fair and Conference 2012 Offers Training, Discounted Registration

The TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair and Conference is Texas' premier environmental educational forum, considered by many to be one of the best in the country. This year, early registration cost is only \$99.

The event will feature 100 educational sessions with more than 10 concurrent tracks—including an expanded track on oil and gas topics—where participants can learn how to comply with state environmental rules and regulations. In addition, a larger exhibit hall will feature space for more than 400 vendors.

Find more information, purchase a booth, or register as an attendee at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/etfc](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/etfc).

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### Texas Comptroller's Drought Impact Report

The current drought is the worst single-year drought in Texas since record keeping began, and according to the Texas Comptroller's latest report, it may prove to be one of the most devastating economic events in our history. Estimates by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service put Texas agricultural losses for the year at \$5.2 billion.

Drought can trigger far-reaching consequences—from the water infrastructure, agriculture, and taxes to population and business revenues. According to the Texas Water Development Board's 2012 State Water Plan, demand for water should rise by 22 percent by 2060. The TWDB explains that if we experience another multiyear "drought of record" such as that of the 1950s, Texas businesses and workers could lose nearly \$116 billion in income by 2060.

## Take Care of Texas Tips

### At Home:

#### Water Wisely.

Lawn and garden watering make up as much as 40% of total household water use. Water your yard thoroughly, but only as needed—usually no more than 1 inch, once a week. Consider using drip irrigation for plants and gardens, and water early in the morning to minimize evaporation.

### Around the Office:

#### Reduce Travel.

Look for opportunities to work from home, compress your work-week schedule, or host meetings via teleconference or videoconference to reduce employee travel.

The Comptroller's report *Gauging the Economic Impact of the 2011 Drought and Beyond* discusses the current drought and its impact on our state, current and future water resources in Texas, and the innovative solutions communities in Texas and other states are using to tackle the water crisis.

View the complete report at  
<[www.window.state.tx.us/specialrpt/drought/](http://www.window.state.tx.us/specialrpt/drought/)>.

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## TCEQ's Brownfields Program Accepting Applications for Site Assessments

The TCEQ offers services that help nonprofits and local governments revitalize brownfields—industrial properties that have been neglected because of real or perceived contamination. The Brownfields Site Assistance (BSA) Program aid helps local communities redevelop these properties by addressing environmental concerns. The BSA Program offers technical advice, education, and project partnering for brownfields redevelopment at no cost.

Find more information at  
<[www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/bsa/bsa.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/bsa/bsa.html)>.



#### Before:

Previously, the 71 acre-Crestview Station in Central Austin functioned as a chemical research facility from 1949 until 2005.

#### After:

The site has been redeveloped as a mixed-use property, with single-family homes and an apartment complex, ball fields, and 150,000 square-feet of office and retail space. Crestview Station is also a stop for Austin's new MetroRail.



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## Don't Forget...

- National Groundwater Awareness Week, March 11-17. Visit <[www.tgpc.state.tx.us](http://www.tgpc.state.tx.us)>.
- Fix a Leak Week, March 12-18. Visit <[epa.gov/watersense/our\\_water/fix\\_a\\_leak.html](http://epa.gov/watersense/our_water/fix_a_leak.html)>.



## Stay Informed, Visit the TCEQ Newsroom

On our website, you'll find news releases, radio sound bites, and agency background at <[www.tceq.texas.gov/news](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/news)>.

- E-mail Alerts: Sign up to receive an e-mail whenever we post a news release.
- Audio: See our news sound bites and Public Service Announcements.
- Video: View webcasts of commission agendas and other meetings

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## Highlighted TCEQ Publication



***Take Care of Texas Guide to Yard Care, GI-028,*** helps you maintain a healthy yard, save money, and take care of our state's varied landscapes. ([www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-028.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-028.html))



### The Take Care of Texas program is on Facebook.

Connect with Take Care of Texas to find out about environmental events, tips, and interesting tidbits from fellow Texans. Visit <[www.facebook.com/Take-Care-of-Texas](http://www.facebook.com/Take-Care-of-Texas)>.

### Take the Survey!

The TCEQ values your opinion on how we are doing and how we can improve—fill out a survey today. Go online at <[www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/customersurvey](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/customersurvey)>, or request a paper copy by calling 800-687-4040.

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